

Joel Roberts Poinsett to Andrew Jackson, January 30, 1833, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

JOEL R. POINSETT TO JACKSON.

Charleston, January 30, 1833.

My dear Sir, So much anxiety is expressed by the members of the Union party on the subject of the advance of the States Rights forces from the interior, that you must pardon me for troubling you so often on the subject. In my opinion if one thousand men (Regulars) were encamped on the Neck or at the U. S. Arsenal, as a point for the Union men to rally upon in case of an attack from the opposite party. They would be compelled to respect us. There is no constitutional objection to this measure. I make this suggestion at the solicitation of my friends. I think we will make a good defence any how, altho if the Volunteers of his Excellency pour down upon us we shall have to contend against great odds. Contracts are made and depots forming all along the Roads leading to Charleston.

Have you the power, or will you have it to call out or accept Volunteers otherwise than through the governors of the states? I believe so; but am not certain, and should like to know for our government.

The Nullifiers have made no further movements. They bluster as usual. I am suffering with a lame finger, which compels me to conclude.

I am Dear Sir respectfully